

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Official Action dated August 10, 2006. In this Amendment, claims 1, 9, 11, 15 and 22 are amended and claims 8 and 12 are canceled. Following entry of this amendment, claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13-22 shall be pending.

In the Office Action, claims 8 and 12 are objected to for depending from a rejected base claim, and claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13-22 have been rejected based on prior art grounds. For the reasons set forth below, these rejections are hereby traversed and a notice of allowance is hereby requested.

I. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 8 and 12 is acknowledged and the Examiner is thanked for this indication.

II. CLAIM OBJECTION

The Examiner objected to claims 8 and 12 for depending from a rejected base claim. Claim 8 has been canceled and its limitations have been incorporated into claim 1. Claim 12 has similarly been canceled and its limitations have been incorporated into claim 9. Thus, the basis for this objection is no longer present in the claims and therefore the objection is requested to be withdrawn.

While not objected to, claim 22 has been amended to correct a typographical error of the term energizable and claim 11 has been amended in view of the amendment to claim 9.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. SECTION 102

Claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,748,466 to McGivern et al. (*The McGivern et al. Patent*). In an effort solely to expedite prosecution of this application, claims 8 and 12 have been canceled and their limitations have been incorporated into claims 1 and 9,

respectively and therefore are believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and claims 10, 11 and 13-14 depend from claim 9. Thus, these dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 9; however these claims further distinguish and define over the prior art.

Turning to claim 15, this claim has been amended to include “observing said inputting of program parameters by viewing a substantially circular arrangement of energizable indicia of said electronic display” which is similar to the subject matter of claim 8, now incorporated into claim 1 and previously indicated as allowable. Thus, claim 15 is similarly believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 16-22 depend from claim 15 and therefore are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 15, however these dependent claims further distinguish and define over the prior art.

CONCLUSION

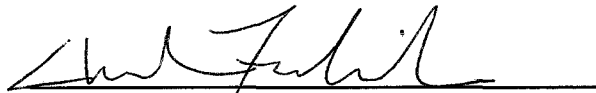
In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that pending claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13-22 are now in condition for allowance. Hence an indication of allowability is hereby requested.

If for any reason direct communication with Applicants' attorney would serve to advance prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is cordially urged to call the undersigned attorney at the below listed telephone number.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this Amendment to deposit account No. 50-2809.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 10, 2006



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